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12 FEB 1988

By Stokes  
Rep Hyde

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

FROM: John L. Helgerson  
Director of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: Your Monthly Meeting on 17 February with  
Representatives Stokes and Hyde

On February 17, 1988 you are scheduled to have your regular monthly meeting with House Intelligence Committee Chairman Louis Stokes (D., OH) and Ranking Minority Member Henry Hyde (R., IL) at 10:00 a.m. in Room H-405 the Capitol. I will accompany you. Tom Latimer and perhaps Tom Smeeton from the Committee staff will also attend.

You will be introducing your new Deputy Director for Operations, Dick Stoltz, to Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde at 11:00 a.m.

Immediately following this meeting with Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde, one of the newest Members of the Committee, Mr. Bill Richardson (D., NM), wishes to speak with you privately for about five minutes in one of the Committee offices. Mr. Richardson has declined to disclose the subject he wishes to discuss with you but assures us that it is a sensitive matter.

I suggest you raise the following subjects with Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde:

- Testimony on Intelligence Oversight Act
- Bob Woodward's Book, Veil

A separate page regarding each of these issues is attached. A summary of the last meeting with Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde held on 17 November is also attached.

John L. Helgerson

Attachments

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Testimony on Intelligence Authorization Act

Although you will be testifying on the bill before the House Intelligence Committee on 24 February, this would be an excellent opportunity to emphasize your concerns about the bill in a more personal manner. This has the potential for a high payoff since Stokes is the principal sponsor of the bill and he may not have been told by his staff of the major concerns the Agency has with the legislation. You should get strong support from Mr. Hyde, who opposes the legislation and plans to testify against it. I suggest you raise two points:

First, the definition of special activities contained in the bill could change the standard for determining whether a finding is necessary to authorize a particular activity. The result could be to require Presidential authorization for a variety of activities that have not required Presidential authorization in the past, e.g., counterintelligence activities, support given to the State Department in the conduct of diplomatic activities, and minor support provided to DoD in the evacuation of Americans from foreign countries. Requiring Presidential authorization for these kinds of activities is unnecessary and burdensome.

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OCA 87-5738  
16 NOV 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

FROM: David D. Gries <sup>D. Gries</sup>  
Director of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: Your Monthly Meeting on 17 November with  
Representatives Stokes and Hyde

Your regular monthly meeting with Representatives Louis Stokes (D., OH) and Henry Hyde (R., IL), the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the House Intelligence Committee respectively, is scheduled for 17 November at 2 p.m. in Room H-405 at the Capitol. Also attending are Bob Gates and I and Tom Latimer and Tom Smeeton from the Committee Staff.

A summary of the last meeting with Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde is attached at Tab A.

Suggested talking points follow:

-- Appearances before the Committee: I suggest that you open the meeting by expressing your appreciation for these periodic meetings with Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde. Referring to your telephone conversation with Mr. Stokes on 10 November 1987, you can reassure him that you would welcome the opportunity to appear before the whole Committee at any time and hope that this can be arranged in the near future.

-- Committee call for a comprehensive examination of our counterintelligence organization, management and techniques: On 4 November Mr. Stokes sent you a letter, signed by all Members of the House Intelligence Committee, calling for a comprehensive, critical examination throughout the Intelligence Community of our counterintelligence organization, management and techniques. (See Tab B) This letter was prompted by the 22 October briefing we gave to the Committee

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-- Congressional Oversight: There are three issues involving proposals for further controls of the Agency with which you are already very familiar and which you will want to discuss with Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde. These issues will be particularly pertinent given the fact that the Iran/Contra report will be released on the day of your meeting. The proposals include a statutory Inspector General and Senate confirmation of the General Counsel, both of which are recommendations contained in the Iran/Contra report. Furthermore, also on the horizon is the Panetta Bill which calls for the General Accounting Office to conduct audits of the Agency. We are against these proposals and you may wish to use this opportunity to express your opposition to them. Mr. Hyde at least has already expressed his opposition to the Panetta Bill, and we believe Mr. Stokes may share that opinion because the Bill would infringe on the responsibilities of our Oversight Committees.

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-- Disciplinary action against Mr. Brown and Mr. Wilson: If the opportunity presents itself, you may wish to raise the issue of whether Mr. Stokes has taken any action to discipline House Intelligence Committee Members George Brown (D., CA) and Charlie Wilson (D., TX) for their advertent or inadvertent leaks this past year. Mr. Stokes shared our consternation regarding these leaks and had said he was considering the best way to handle this problem.

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-- Congressman Brown's (D., CA) planned legislation to acknowledge the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO): Congressman Brown has approached Mr. Stokes concerning his desire to introduce a bill declassifying the NRO. We understand he cannot act unilaterally and must proceed through formal Committee procedures. Some House Intelligence Committee staffers indicate they do not oppose the plan since they reason the NRO has already been publicized in various press articles and is therefore now in the public domain. It might be useful to alert Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hyde of our concern about Mr. Brown's planned initiative and note that although the NRO has been publicized, official acknowledgment of the existence of the NRO will likely erode the security of other, still classified, aspects of the NRO and related activities.

cc: DDCI

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